

Appl. No.: 09/560,006
Amdt. dated 04/14/2006
Second Reply to Official Action of October 18, 2005

REMARKS

This Second Reply is being filed in response to the final Official Action of October 18, 2005, and the Advisory Action of February 17, 2006. Currently, Claims 1, 2, 4-10, 12-28, 30-36, 38-49 and 51-56 are pending, of which Claims 12, 38, 55 and 56 have been allowed. The remaining claims stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,864,868 to David C. Contois in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,301,586 to Yang et al.

In order to advance the present application to issuance in the most expeditious fashion, Applicants have cancelled Claims 7, 17-26, 33, 43-49 and 51-54 without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants have also amended independent Claims 1 and 27 to depend from allowed Claims 55 and 56, respectively; and amended the dependencies of Claims 8-10, 14, 15, 34-36, 40 and 41 to depend, directly or indirectly, to respective ones of allowed Claims 55 and 56. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that all of the remaining dependent claims, namely Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-10, 12-16, 27, 28, 30-32, 34-36 and 38-42 depend, directly or indirectly, from allowed independent Claims 55 and 56. Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-10, 13-16, 27, 28, 30-32, 34-36 and 39-42 are patentably distinct from Contois and Yang, taken individually or in combination, for at least the same reasons as allowed independent Claims 55 and 56. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-10, 13-16, 27, 28, 30-32, 34-36 and 39-42 as being unpatentable over Contois in view of Yang is overcome.

Appl. No.: 09/560,006
Amdt. dated 04/14/2006
Second Reply to Official Action of October 18, 2005

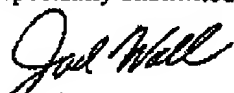
CONCLUSION

In view of the amended and cancelled claims, and the remarks presented above, it is respectfully submitted that the present claims are in condition for immediate allowance. It is therefore respectfully requested that a Notice of Allowance be issued. The Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to resolve any remaining issues in order to expedite the examination of the present application.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 07-2347.

Date: April 14, 2006

Respectfully submitted,




Joel Wall
Registration No. 25,648

Customer No. 32127
Verizon Corporate Services Group Inc.
600 Hidden Ridge, HQE03H14
Irving, TX 75038
Telephone: (972) 718-4800
Facsimile: (972) 718-3946

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 CFR 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent Office at 571-273-8300.

Date: April 14, 2006

 Christian R. Andersen